CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

providing a reticle on a carrier and inside an antistatic bag; and

providing a self-contained thermophoretic source to protect [[a]] said reticle from particle contamination, said thermophoretic source provided external to [[a]] said carrier for the reticle.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 including providing the ~~thermoelectric~~ thermophoretic source under the reticle carrier.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein providing a self-contained thermophoretic source includes providing dry ice.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein providing a self-contained thermophoretic source includes providing the source and the reticle within a container.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein providing a self-contained thermophoretic source includes providing a Peltier source.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 including providing a source for a reticle that has a printable particle size less than 30 microns.

Claims 8-20 (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 including providing the thermophoretic source and the reticle within the same container.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 including providing the reticle within an electrostatic bag and providing the thermophoretic source external to the electrostatic bag.

23. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

providing a reticle on a carrier within an antistatic bag; and

creating a temperature gradient within a shipping box to protect [[a]] said reticle from particle contamination during shipment.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein creating a temperature gradient includes creating a temperature gradient for a plurality of reticles within the shipping box.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein creating a temperature gradient includes creating a temperature gradient for a plurality of reticles within a reticle carrier.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 including separating the source of the temperature gradient from the reticle.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein creating a temperature gradient includes creating a temperature gradient using a thermophoretic source that does not require a power supply.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28 wherein using a thermophoretic source that does not require a power supply includes using dry ice.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein creating a temperature gradient includes creating a temperature gradient using a thermoelectric coupling device.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein creating a temperature gradient includes creating a temperature gradient using the Peltier effect.

32. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

providing a reticle in an antistatic bag; and

~~placing~~ providing a thermophoretic source that does not require an external power supply ~~within~~ in a shipping container to prevent particles from contaminating [[a]] said reticle during shipment.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32 wherein ~~placing~~ providing a thermophoretic source ~~within~~ in the shipping container includes ~~placing~~ providing dry ice within the shipping container.